



Governor Terry E. Branstad

Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds

San Wong, Director

JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

"To advocate for an effective, fair and equitable justice system for every Iowa youth."

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

**Polk County River Place
2309 Euclid Avenue, Conf. Room 1A
Des Moines, IA 50310**

March 6, 2014

Present: Rita Ferneau, Chair; Andrew Allen; Candice Bennett; Christy Burkhart; Stephen Clarke; Wayne Ford; Joel Illian; Margaret Johnson; Karen Jones; Jeremy Kaiser; Roy Klobnak; Carl Smith; Shauna Soderstrum; Zach Thomas; David Thompson; Jennifer Tibbetts; Julie Walton; Jeralyn Westercamp; Alyssa Wicker; Doug Wolfe

Absent: Jacey Bair-Waddell; Robert Bonus; Dillon Malone; Bill Ocker; John Quinn; Tony Reed

Staff: Paul Stageberg; Kile Beisner; Dave Kuker; Steve Michael; Scott Musel; Kathy Nesteby; Julie Rinker

Others: Michael Ferjak, Iowa Department of Public Safety

I. Call to Order

- **Changes and Approval of Agenda**

Rita Ferneau, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. A quorum was present.

II. Approve Minutes

Roy Klobnak moved to approve the minutes from the December meeting, seconded by Margaret Johnson. The motion was unanimously approved.

Candice Bennett moved to approve the minutes from the February conference call, seconded by Carl Smith. The motion was unanimously approved.

III. Division Update/National Update

Paul Stageberg, provided the following regarding CJJP:

- Next week, the Justice Systems Appropriation Committee should provide more information on a recommended CJJP budget. The Governor's budget does not include \$160,000 for a vacant position. It is uncertain if that will change.

- The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) requires each governor to insure their state is in compliance by mid-May. Non-compliance could result in a reduction of federal Byrne and/or juvenile justice funding. CJJP is working with DHS and Corrections to meet requirements.
- A draft report regarding juveniles serving life sentences was recently shared with the Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning Advisory Council.
- The Senate and House have passed competing bills making changes to kidnapping offenses. The House bill is much broader and does away with earned time for kidnapping or sex offenses that have juvenile victims. The House proposal would impact the prison population within 10-20 years by approximately 500-600 inmates. The Senate version broadens the definition of kidnapping 2nd and creates a penalty for a subsequent kidnapping. Both are in response to the Michael Klunder kidnapping last year.
- CJJP is working with the Department of Public Health to evaluate a suicide prevention program targeted at high school students. The project is a three-year grant.
- Stageberg announced his intentions to retire in the late summer. One other retirement will occur in CJJP. He noted how these retirements will impact analytic functions within CJJP.

The agenda was amended to hear a presentation on human trafficking by Michael Ferjak.

IV. Council Budget Report – Kile Beisner

Kile Beisner reported that a balance of \$13,909.10 remains in council funds. There was no other discussion.

V. Travel – Action

- **CJJ Conference: June 18 – 21, 2014 in Washington, DC**

Scott Musel reported that travel for one staff to attend the OJJDP conference on June 17-18 was approved at the last meeting. At that meeting, he was directed to request the agenda of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) annual conference, but has received no response. Any voting would require attendance by the chair or designee.

Judge Stephen Clarke moved to authorize travel for the chair, or her designee, for the CJJ conference, seconded by Andrew Allen.

Discussion included that CJJ has recently appointed a new executive director, Wayne Ford noted his interest in attending, and that Musel's expenses to attend the required OJJDP conference comes from Council funds.

The motion was unanimously approved.

VI. Compliance Monitoring Report – Scott Musel

Musel stated the report will be submitted to OJJDP in mid-June (due June 30). The report covers the four core requirements. He will resume facility monitoring in mid-March.

VII. By-Laws Approval – Action (Originally distributed December 6, 2013)

Musel noted the by-laws were distributed in December, but require a 10–day review by council members. Changes were discussed at the last meeting and included legislative responsibilities/procedures and budget.

Margaret Johnson moved to approve the by-laws as submitted, seconded by Judge Clarke. The motion was unanimously approved.

VIII. Executive Committee – Rita Ferneau

- **Election of At-Large Members – Action**

Musel reported that both Joel Illian and John Quinn submitted nominations to serve as members-at-large on the Council's Executive Committee.

The motion was unanimously approved.

[The Council recessed for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.]

IX. Committee Reports

- **Iowa Task Force for Young Women (ITFYW) – Jennifer Tibbetts**

Jennifer Tibbetts, ITFYW Chair, reported that the position paper related to the Iowa Juvenile Home and treatment for girls has been shared with legislators. Legislative hearings were attended by Tibbetts and CJJP staff. Arrangements are being finalized for Meda Chesney Lind to present information regarding best practices for delinquent girls at a public defenders conference in June and possibly the state bar association.

Steve Michael noted limitations as a state agency in sharing the position paper. Council members, however, are free to share the document with interested parties.

- **Mental Health Substance Abuse Brain Development (MHSABD) – Christy Burkhardt**

Christy Burkhardt, MHSABD Chair, reported that the committee will meet in April to review issues. The JCO survey deadline is March 8. So far, twice as many as last year have completed the survey—she credited the eight chief juvenile court officers. Information will be shared at the June meeting. Two-three names have been suggested to rewrite/review the Staff Guide for Working with Problem Behaviors.

[12:35 p.m. – Wayne Ford rejoined meeting]

- **Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) – Wayne Ford**

Kuker reminded that due to reduced federal funding, DMC activities are now conducted through CJJP. He noted interest by the Community and Strategic Planning Project Committee

(CASP) to provide training through Georgetown University for several larger communities to affect DMC in those areas. However, funding for the training may be an issue. Kuker noted that leaders from Johnson and Linn Counties attended the Georgetown training and returned very enthused.

[12:51 p.m. – Candice Bennett rejoined the meeting]

- **Positive Youth Development & Transitioning – Steve Michael**

Michael reported that the State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council (SIYAC) and the Iowa Youth Congress have been heavily involved in promoting legislation. Three bills are currently active—cyber bullying (to be debated in the House today); suicide prevention training for school personnel; and tanning salon usage restrictions. These two groups are also working with AMP (Achieving Maximum Potential) to develop legislative proposals for transitioning youth. AMP members are youth who have been involved in foster care, adoption or other out-of-home placements.

The Youth Transition Decision Making (YTDM) model, developed by DHS, is being used as a template for juvenile justice system youth in the 3rd and 5th judicial districts. Training for facilitators is being provided through the respective chief juvenile court officers and JJDP Act funding.

Planning is underway for the 2014 Iowa Youth Survey. One major change is that larger school districts will receive reports per high school building. Michael was hopeful that Des Moines Public Schools would participate this year. The building nor district information is not public (school districts can share the information), however, the county-wide reports are published.

The Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development (ICYD) annual report was included in the meeting packet and is available online.

X. Policy & Programs Committee (PnP) – Carl Smith
Juvenile Justice Funds Budget Approval – *Action*

Carl Smith reported that the PnP Committee met in February to review the budget based upon anticipated federal JJDP Act funding. The PnP Committee is recommending approval of the budget requests with the exception of travel to the CJJ conference by Wayne Ford.

This motion was unanimously approved.

The PnP also discussed legislative actions and voted to hold regular meetings in late May and late August to review proposed legislation or positions.

Musel noted that the budget handout may change depending upon the actual amount of federal funding awarded and the final amount of any carryover funds.

XI. Youth Members – JJDP Act Requirement: 223(a)(3)(D)(iii)

Alyssa Wicker reported that JJAC youth members met via conference call to discuss ways to solicit input from system youth. During a meeting held this date, the group decided to contact the chief juvenile court officers and detention directors to determine if exit surveys were being conducted. More information will be provided at a later date.

XII. Juvenile Justice Grant Projects

- **Juvenile Justice Reform Project (JJRP) Update – Kathy Nesteby**

Kathy Nesteby reviewed that the Juvenile Justice Reform Project (JJRP) looks at program effectiveness and cost/benefit analysis in the 1st, 3rd, and 6th judicial districts. The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) is used to evaluate programs and services. A site visit was held in late January in the 1st and 6th districts. The pilot stage is almost complete, scoring is underway, and program improvement plans are being drafted. Reviews will be held with services providers, juvenile court services, and CJJP staff. The next stage will expand to 18-20 services at the community level as well as services provided through six residential programs. Nesteby noted her appreciation for cooperation received by those involved with the project.

In early April, the national partners (Shay Bilchik, Georgetown University; and Mark Lipsey, Vanderbilt University) will meet with all eight chief juvenile court officers to discuss ways in which statewide expansion could occur and assist with ongoing juvenile justice reforms. Meetings are being planned with the Governor's office, state court administration, the chief justice, and some legislators to apprise them of the project and discuss broader system shifts.

Bennett noted that Florida has been involved in the project for about a year. Comparisons before and after the project inception noted significant improvements in reducing recidivism. Michael noted that the project is to help deliver, based on Iowa Delinquency Assessment (IDA) risk scores), the right service and frequency of services to an individual youth. Nesteby added that the right array of available services is also being reviewed and compared with research across the country. The project will assist with overall system improvement and possibly reduced costs as well.

- **Community and Strategic Planning (CASP) – Dave Kuker and Kile Beisner**

Kuker reviewed that the purpose of the grant is to produce two products 1) a strategic plan to affect DMC and 2) the development of an automated Detention Screening Tool (DST). Subcommittees have been established to accomplish some of the work. The focus is on the front end of the system and reviews system processing and ways to engage local officials.

Beisner reported that the DST subcommittee has met several times to review and make revisions to the DST. A pilot is currently underway. A validation will be conducted on the instrument once a sufficient number of tools have been collected.

Stageberg added that the grant provides for programming in the Iowa Courts Information System (ICIS) to automate the screening and pull delinquency history. The State Court Administration is a partner in the project.

Ford discussed concerns with the length of the delinquency history and impact on minority youth. Beisner noted there are a disproportionate number of African-American youth that are referred to juvenile court. She was hopeful that the project would affect disproportionality.

Burkhart noted issues when a detention alternative is not available. Kuker stated that a list of detention alternatives is being collected from the eight juvenile court offices to identify what alternatives are currently available as well as what is needed in each judicial district.

Smith proposed holding a meeting to discuss data collection to focus on what we know is happening with Iowa youth. Musel suggested the topic be discussed at the JJAC retreat to be held in the fall.

XIII. Human Trafficking Presentation

Michael Ferjak presented information on Iowa's human trafficking initiative. He noted the importance of integrating community awareness to provide services to victims throughout the state. Approximately 300 missing/runaways are reported each month. Of those, around 75 are at risk of entering prostitution activities and average 14 years of age. Ferjak noted online sites where youth are advertised and that trafficking typically follows large spectator events.

Training last fall was attended by approximately 130 system professionals and community organizations. There is a need for infrastructure to support victims and investigations after arrest.

DMACC is helping to develop a curriculum for training law enforcement, victim services, and communities. Legislative efforts are in place to provide funding for law enforcement, prosecution, and victim services. For more information: PolarisProject.org or michael.ferjak@iowa.gov.

XIV. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

XV. New Business

There was no new business.

XVI. Adjourn

Next Meeting – Thursday, June 5th, 2014, Polk County River Place

The meeting adjourned at 1:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Julie Rinker, Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning